## SENATE, No. 149

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 213th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2008 SESSION

**Sponsored by:** 

Senator DIANE B. ALLEN
District 7 (Burlington and Camden)
Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE
District 19 (Middlesex)

**Co-Sponsored by:** 

Senators Baroni, Gordon, T.Kean, Redd, Rice and Singer

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Provides for automatic enrollment in PAAD and Senior Gold programs under certain circumstances.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/10/2009)

1	AN ACT concerning State pharmaceutical assistance programs an	ıd
2	supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.	

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. a. If a person who is a recipient of benefits under the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled," or PAAD program becomes ineligible for PAAD because the person's income exceeds the program's income eligibility limit and the person still remains eligible for the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program," the person shall be enrolled automatically in the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program."

b. If a person who is a recipient of benefits under the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program" has a decrease in income that renders the person eligible for PAAD, the person shall automatically be enrolled in PAAD.

c. The Department of Health and Senior Services shall establish one application form for use in applying for the PAAD program and the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program." The form shall provide for the inclusion of all information necessary to determine eligibility for both programs and advise applicants of the automatic enrollment provisions of subsections a. and b. of this section.

2. This act shall take effect on the 60th day after enactment.

#### **STATEMENT**

This bill provides for automatic enrollment in either the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program" or the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled" (PAAD) program if a person becomes ineligible for one program but remains eligible for the other program.

Under the provisions of the bill, if a person who is a recipient of benefits under PAAD becomes ineligible for that program because the person's income exceeds the PAAD income eligibility limit and the person still remains eligible for the "Senior Gold Prescription Discount Program," the person would be enrolled automatically in Senior Gold. Income eligibility limits for Senior Gold are up to \$10,000 greater than those of PAAD.

Similarly, if a person who is a recipient of benefits under Senior Gold has a decrease in income that renders the person eligible for PAAD, the person would be enrolled automatically in PAAD.

The bill has a delayed effective date of 60 days after enactment to allow time for the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish one application form for use in applying for both programs. The form would provide for the inclusion of all

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- 1 information necessary to determine eligibility for both programs
- 2 and advise applicants of the automatic enrollment provisions of the
- 3 bill.